

In the Specification

Please amend the abstract as detailed below:

Abstract

An optical instrument, in particular an endoscope, has a shaft and an interchangeable head. The interchangeable head is detachably connected to the distal end of the shaft at a coupling point. The instrument also has a first transmission system for distal transmission of illuminating power, and a second transmission system for proximal transmission of image information, the first transmission system and the second transmission system passing through the coupling point. The interchangeable head and/or the coupling point are/is designed in such a way that upon loosening of the interchangeable head image information of perceptively modified quality is transmitted by the second transmission system.

~~The interchangeable head and/or the coupling point are/is designed in such a way that upon loosening of the interchangeable head image information of perceptively modified quality is transmitted by the second transmission system.~~

~~— Furthermore, a description is given of an optical instrument, in particular an endoscope, having a shaft and having an interchangeable head that is detachably connected to the distal end of the shaft at a coupling point, and having, furthermore, a first transmission system for distal transmission of illuminating power and having a second transmission system for proximal transmission of image information, the first transmission system and the second transmission system passing through the coupling point, wherein the second transmission system has at least one image pick-up that is arranged in the interchangeable head, and an electric signal line that leads from the image pick-up through the coupling point in the proximal direction.~~